Rail Accident on Unmanned Level Crossings

766. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the railway accidents that took place during 1995 at the unmanned level crossings;

(b) the people killed in those accidents and how many of their kith and kin were rehabilitated;

(c) the unmanned level crossings that still exist in the country; and

(d) whether there is any programme to convert these crossings into manned crossings expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI): (a) during 1995, there were 58 train accidents at unmanned level crossings on Indian Railways.

(b) 113 persons lost their lives in these accidents. There is no provision of rehabilitation of kith and kin of those who are killed in unmanned level crossing accidents.

(c) 21,267.

(d) Manning of unmanned level crossings, except identified as vulnerable ones, is taken up at the request of the State Governments and at their cost. Manning can, therefore, be done as and when the State Governments make proposals, placing necessary funds with the Railways.

Production and Export of Bicycles

763. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the Global status of India in bicycles production and bicycles manufactured by the major manufacturers during the last three years;

(b) the number of bicycles and their components exported, foreign exchange earned during the aforesaid period; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to increase the production and export of quality bicycles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) India is the second largest producer of bicycles after China. The bicycles manufactured in the country by the major manufacturers from 1992-93 to 1994-95 are as follows:

Year	Production (in lakhs)
1992-93	69.63
1993-94	74.41
1994-95	78.78

(b) The export of complete bicycles and parts from India is as follows:

Period	Complete bicycles incl. cycle rickshaw		Parts Value (in crore rupees)	Total* Value (in crore rupees)
	Qty. (in thousand	Value (in crore rupees)		
1992-93	9.24	97.20	343.42	440.62
1993-94	12.53	154.75	377.76	532.51
1994-95	11.03	146.50	324.31	470.81

*(Estimated)

(c) There are no regulatory constraints for enhancement of production turnover. The manufacturers have installed modern equipments and machines and employed mass production techniques. Highly effective quality control programmes have been adopted from pre-manufacturing to post-manufacturing stages. Better quality bicycles parts are also now being produced in the country. UNIDO-Assisted Bicycle and Sewing Machine Development Centre in Ludhiana assists the bicycle manufacturers to improve the quality of Indian bicycles. Bicycle and bicycle parts are totally exempted from excise-duty to make bicycles available at the lowest possible rate.

In order to give a fillip to export of bicycles, the concerned Export Promotion Council sends teams to study developments in overseas markets with a view to adopt the same at home, and also participates in international fairs abroad.

Increase in Tourist Inflow

768. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tourist inflow which is 1.8 million at present is proposed to be increased to 7 million by the turn of the century;

(b) if so, the estimated amount required to meet the target; and

(c) the steps being considered to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) The international tourist traffic to India during 1995 was about 2.1 million. The efforts of the Government are to attract 5 million foreign tourists by the turn of the century. It requires substantial expansion of infrastructural facilities in the country. Most of the investment has to take place in the private sector and in diverse activities including basic infrastructure.

(c) The steps taken to achieve the target include facilitation of private investment in the tourism infrastructure, assistance to State/UT. Governments and strengthening of overseas publicity and promotion.

Plans to Develop River Tourism

769. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plans to develop rivers as tourist sites;

(b) if so, the details of plans to develop river tourism;

(c) whether any survey has been made of the tourism potential of River Godaveri in East Godaveri and West Godaveri districts in Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the Sundarbans in West Bengal, the backwaters of Kerala and the Varanasi/Allahabad sector of the Ganga have been initially identified to develop and promote river tourism.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Terrorism In Jammu and Kashmir

770. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 498 given in the Rajya Sabha on 30th Novermber, 1995 and state:

(a) the number of persons killed and injured in terrorism-related violence in Jammu and Kashmir during the period from 1st November, 1995 to 31st December, 1995;

(b) how many of those killed were militants, how many were civilians and how many belonged to the security forces;